

Amendments to the Claims:

This claim listing will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claim Listing:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying a compound that inhibits ~~p21-induced~~ p21-mediated induction of senescence-associated changes in cellular gene expression in a mammalian cell, the method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) treating the mammalian cell in the presence and absence of the compound with an agent that induces p21 expression and p21-induced mediated induction of senescence, or culturing the mammalian cell in the presence and absence of the compound under conditions that induce p21 expression and p21-induced mediated induction of senescence;
 - (b) assaying the mammalian cell ~~in the presence of p21 expression in which p21 expression has been induced in step (a)~~ for induction or repression of expression of a cellular gene by p21 gene expression; and
 - (c) identifying the compound as an inhibitor of ~~p21-induced~~ induction or repression of senescence-associated changes in cellular gene expression by p21 if the gene induced or repressed by p21 is induced or repressed to a lesser extent; in the presence of the compound than in the absence of the compound.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein expression of the cellular gene is ~~detected~~ assayed using an immunological reagent.
7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein expression of the cellular gene is ~~detected~~ assayed ~~by assaying~~ for an activity of the cellular gene product.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein expression of the cellular gene is ~~detected~~ assayed by hybridization of cellular RNA to a nucleic acid complementary to the cellular gene.
- 9.-25. (Canceled)
26. (Currently amended) A method for identifying a compound that promotes ~~p21-induced~~ p21-mediated induction of senescence-associated changes in cellular gene expression in a mammalian cell, the method comprising the steps of:
- (a) treating the mammalian cell with an agent that induces p21 expression and p21-mediated induced induction of senescence in the presence or absence of the compound or culturing the mammalian cell under conditions that induce p21-induced senescence in the presence and absence of the compound;
 - (b) assaying the mammalian cell ~~in the presence of p21 expression in which~~ p21 expression has been induced in step (a) for p21-mediated repression or induction of a cellular gene that is repressed or induced by p21 gene expression; and
 - (c) identifying a compound as a compound that promotes ~~p21-induced~~ p21-mediated induction of senescence-associated changes in cellular gene expression ~~of if a the~~ if a the gene that is repressed by p21 is repressed to a greater extent in the presence of the compound, or ~~if a the~~ if a the gene that is induced by p21 is induced to a greater extent in the presence of the compound.
27. (Currently amended) The method of claim 26, wherein the mammalian cell is assayed for a the cellular gene that is induced by p21.
28. (Canceled)
29. (Currently amended) The method of claim 26, wherein expression of the cellular gene is ~~detected~~ assayed using an immunological reagent.

30. (Currently amended) The method of claim 26, wherein expression of the cellular gene is ~~detected by assaying~~ assayed for an activity of the cellular gene product.
31. (Currently amended) The method of claim 26, where expression of the cellular gene is ~~detected~~ assayed by hybridization of cellular RNA to a nucleic acid complementary to the cellular gene.
- 32-38. (Canceled)